

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04735 301117Z
ACTION IO-14

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PLEASE PASS TO DR. EDWARD EPSTEIN, NOAA ROCKVILLE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN
SUBJECT: RESOURCES FOR WMO PRECIPITATION ENHANCEMENT
PROGRAM (PEP)

1. IN RESPONSE TO RECENT QUERY BY SYG WMO REGARDING
TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES THAT MIGHT BE PRO-
VIDED BY COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PEP, WMO HAS
JUST RECEIVED REPLY FROM USSR. PRELIMINARY ENGLISH TRANS-
LATION CONTAINS FOLLOWING STATEMENT QUOTE APPORTIONMENT
OF AEROPLANE LABORATORY OVER THE SCHEDULED PERIOD, AS
WELL AS THE 3 AND 10 CM RADAR. ASSIGNMENT OF SPECIALISTS
IN CLOUD PHYSICS AND IN METEOROLOGY UNQUOTE. SECRETARIAT
INTERPRETS THIS TO MEAN THE FULL-TIME AVAILABILITY OF A
MAJOR RESEARCH AIRCRAFT AND OF A RADAR OPERATING ON BOTH
3 AND 10 CM.

2. SECRETARIAT BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE A U.S. STATEMENT ON RESOURCES AND EQUIPMENT IT
PLANS TO PROVIDE FOR THE PEP EXPERIMENT, SO THAT MEETING
OF PEP BOARD WHICH OPENS APRIL 3RD WILL HAVE INFORMATION
ON WHICH TO BASE FIRM DECISION TO START PHASE 3 OF SITE
SURVEYS. IN LIGHT OF RESPONSE THUS FAR, THEY BELIEVE IT
WILL BE POSSIBLE TO UNDERTAKE SURVEYS OF TWO SITES DURING
NEXT TWO YEARS. THEY FEEL THAT A DECISION ON THIS QUESTION
IS IMPORTANT IN ORDER TO AVOID REACHING AN IMPASSE IN THE
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PROGRAM IF THE SPANISH SITE SHOULD PROVE UNSATISFACTORY ON
THE BASIS OF PHASE 3 STUDIES. IN THEIR VIEW, ONLY ONE
MAJOR COMPONENT IS STILL NEEDED IN ORDER TO CARRY ON THE
AUSTRALIA SITE SURVEY; THAT IS, A SUITABLE RADAR.
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3. STRONG SHOW OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE U.S. AT THE

BOARD MEETING COULD BE A DECISIVE FACTOR IN DETERMINING
WHETHER PEP CAN BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN TIME FRAME AND IN
MANNER ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED. VANDEN HEUVEL

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